

Spotlight on Beaufort . . .

Both Beaufort County and its county seat were named for Henry Somerset, Duke of Beaufort (1684-1714), one of the Lords Proprietors of Carolina. The district was formed in 1769 from the parishes of Prince William, St. Luke, St. Helena, and St. Peter. Beaufort, the second oldest town in South Carolina, was founded in 1710. In the years before the Civil War, rice and sea island cotton plantations brought great wealth to the region. The United States Marine Corps began training recruits at Parris Island in 1915, and later in the twentieth century Hilton Head Island and neighboring sea islands have become popular resort and retirement destinations. Some famous residents of Beaufort County are Robert Smalls (1839-1915), a United States Congressman; boxer Joe Frazier; and writer Pat Conroy.

Beaufort Workforce Center

164 Castle Rock Road., P O Drawer 1067
Beaufort, SC 29906
(843) 524-3351 / FAX: (843) 524-0904

Location & Climate

- Located in the southern area of the state
- Surrounded by Jasper, Hampton, and Colleton counties, with the Atlantic Ocean to the east
- This region has an average temperature of 65.1 degrees with an annual average rainfall of 52.1 inches.

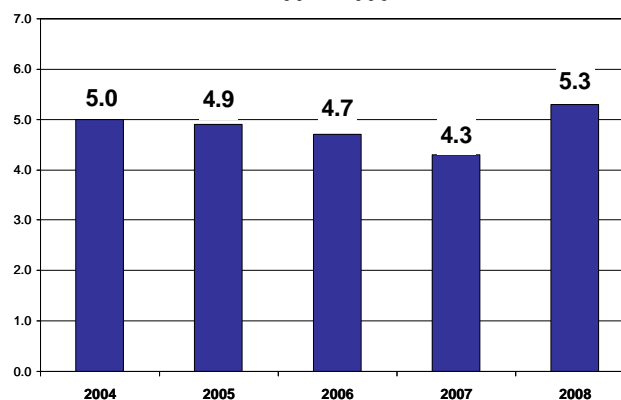
Population

- Was 146,720 in 2007
- Estimated growth to 170,640 by 2015
- 2007 data was comprised of 76.4% White, 21.0% African-American, and 2.5% Other
- The Hispanic-Latino population increased from 8,208 in 2000 to 14,125 in 2007, a 72.1% change.

Labor Force

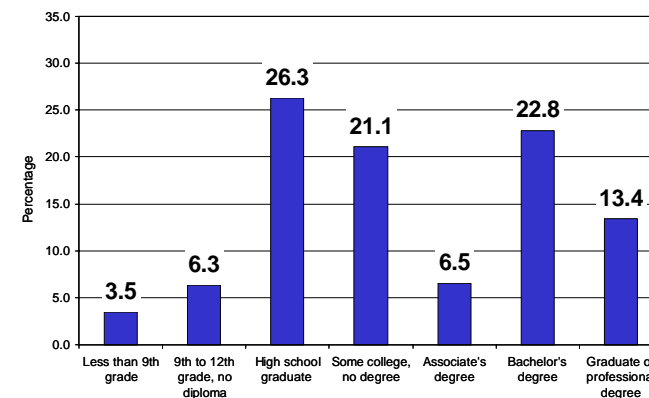
- Decreased from 64,120 in 2007 to 64,100 in 2008
- Employment fell from 61,370 in 2007 to 60,710 in 2008.
- Unemployment rate rose from 4.3% in 2007 to 5.3% in 2008.

Unemployment Rates for Beaufort County
2004 - 2008



Educational Attainment

Beaufort County 2007



Per Capita Income

- County per capita income was \$45,430 for 2007.
- This was 146% of the state's per capita income of \$31,100.
- This was 118% of the national per capita income of \$38,620.

Unemployment Insurance Benefits

The Beaufort Workforce Center paid \$10,748,576 in regular unemployment insurance benefits during 2008.



SC Employment Security Commission Labor Market Information

P O Box 995
Columbia, SC 29202
(803) 737-2660 / FAX: (803) 737-2838
(800) 205-9290 (outside the Columbia area)
<http://www.sces.org/lmi>